

RIP OFF PRESS  
#2



# Greatest DIEGS of all Time!

DEFENDER  
OF TRUTH  
CHAMPION  
OF JUSTICE  
GOOD FRIEND  
OF MOM!



BY  
R. DIEGS  
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# DIGGS DEFINED

## DIGGS, i.t. verb (digg)ing

1. to discover by careful study the truth of ancient civilizations, as archaeological diggs
2. to comprehend complex theories, as "like I digg it, man" (archaic, circa 1960)
3. to thrust, to nudge, to prod, to poke  
to digg into, to digg up

## DIGGS (noun)

1. sarcastic comment, taunt, jeer or put down
2. a place of residence, as "I digg your diggs, man"
3. one of a series of cutting, clever political cartoons by R. Diggs
4. a renowned political cartoonist, known throughout the flat he shares with his faithful companion, two birds and three cats in San Francisco.

## INCLUDED IN THIS COLLECTION ARE:

**THE WINGS OF CHARLEY** from Rip Off Comics #3, published by ROP Inc., 1978. Wherein Charley takes up flying late in life.

**DOWN IN THE MEADOW** from Itchy Planet #2, published by Fantagraphics Books Inc., 1988. A story that asks the question, Does this comic harm the biosphere?

**CLASH OF THE CENTURIES** from TRA Vol. 3 No. 1, published by TRA (Toward Revolutionary Art), 1976. A story proving that Mother doesn't always win - at least in the short run.

**KORPORATE REX** from Anarchy Comix #4, published by Last Gasp Press, 1987. The case for evolution.

**KAREN SILKWOOD** from Corporate Crime #1, published by Kitchen Sink Enterprises, 1977. Meryl Streep later starred in this story - but it was years later.

**DINOSAURS AREN'T DYING ANY MORE** from Energy Comics #1, published by Educomics, 1980. Further proof that it isn't wise to forget about your mother.

**HOW UC DAVIS SAVED THE TOMATO** from Corporate Crime #2, published by Kitchen Sink Enterprises, 1979. Why science may not be the answer.

**CALIFORNIA SCHEMING** from Itchy Planet #3, published by Fantagraphics Books, Inc. 1988. A story that was actually part of the Yes on Prop 68 campaign. The proposition won a majority, by the way, but was outvoted by a competing measure, Prop 73. Now the story continues - Prop 73 was thrown out by the California Supreme Court and Prop 68 may yet be called into effect!

**NIGHT HEAT** from Strip Aids, published by Last Gasp Press, 1988. A massive project to benefit the Shanti Project.

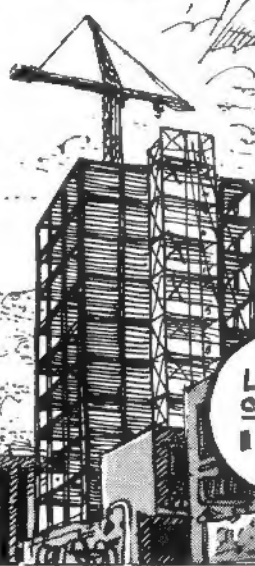


ONE FINAL FABLE FOR THE FAITHFUL...

WRITTEN BY R. DIGGS

# THE WINGS OF CHARLEY

LIKE SOME MODERN PTERODACTYL, A GIANT CONSTRUCTION CRANE BROODS OVER DARK CANYONS OF GRIEF AND POLLUTION! AND THERE, EARLY ONE MORNING, CHARLEY (ONE OF THE FAITHFUL) LOOKS UP, AND SAYS...



DIG THAT CRAZY CRANE! I WONDER WHAT THAT TRIP IS?

I MEAN, LIKE WHY SHOULDN'T I FIND OUT?



AND UP HE GOES!

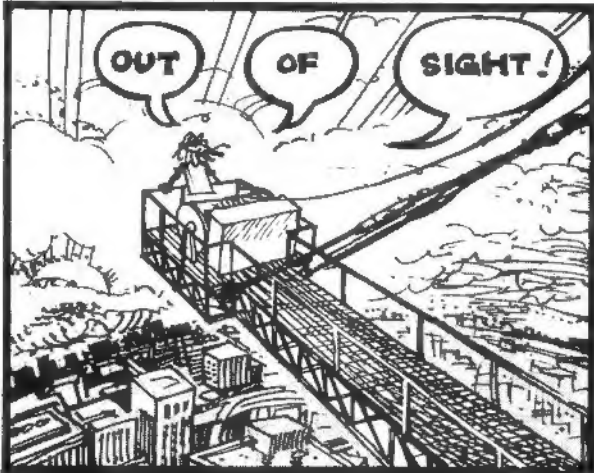
I MEAN LIKE IT'S EARLY! WHO COULD CARE?



OUT

OF

SIGHT!



SNORT AIR SNURF!



SUNSHINE!



FREEDOM!

SIGH

LOOK DAIRS A CRAZY CAT UP DAIR.

HOLY JEEZ!

QUICK

CALL THE TOPS



BIRDS! BREEZE!  
I FEEL LIKE I'M  
FLYING!

GOSH! THAT CROWD  
DOWN THERE LOOKS  
LIKE ITZY-BITZY BUGS!  
HEH HEH

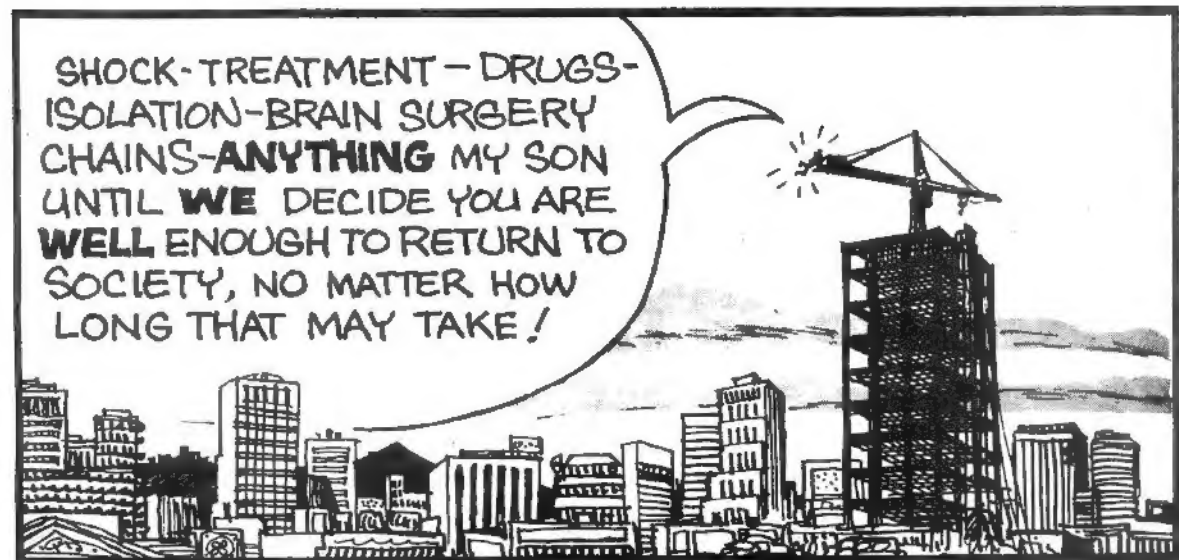
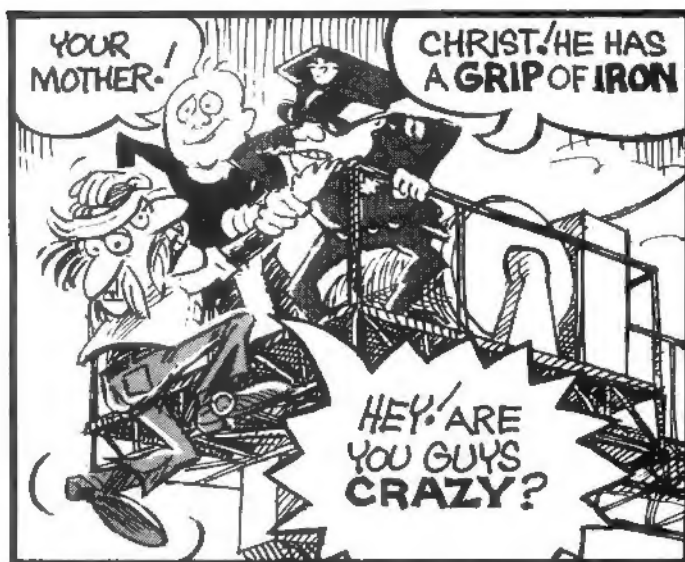
YES... BUT  
WHY A  
CROWD?

SHHHH!

EASY  
DOES  
IT!

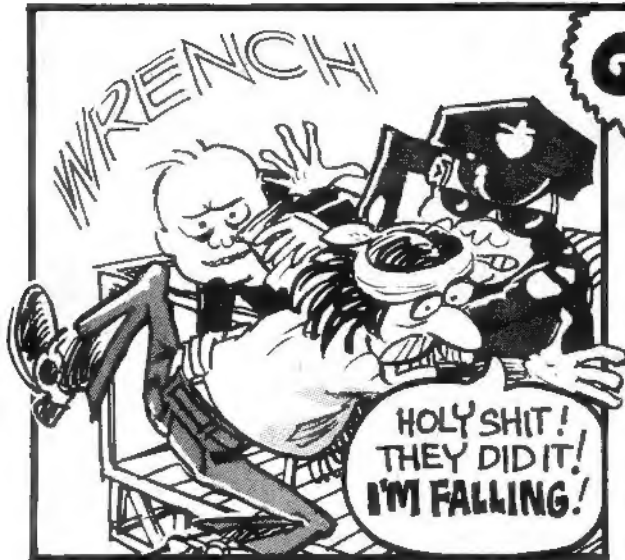
HMMM  
THEY SEEM TO BE  
LOOKING UP-AS  
THOUGH SOMEONE  
WERE ABOUT TO

HEY FELLA, DON'T  
**JUMP**

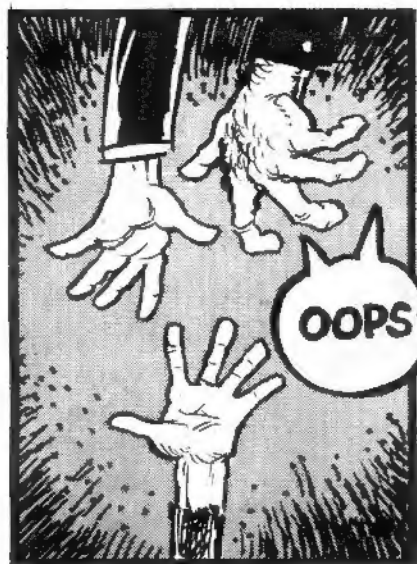
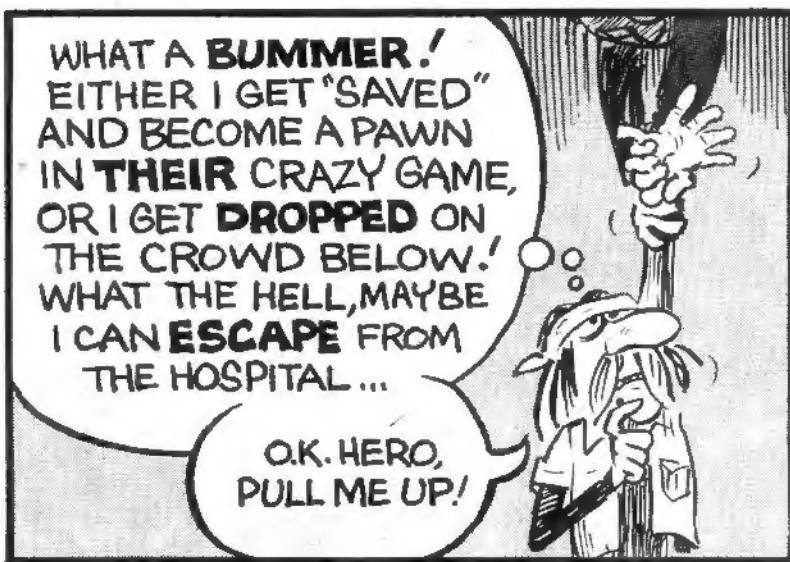


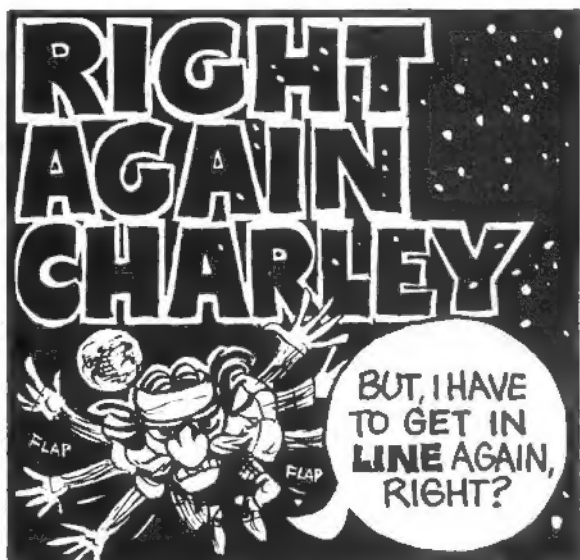
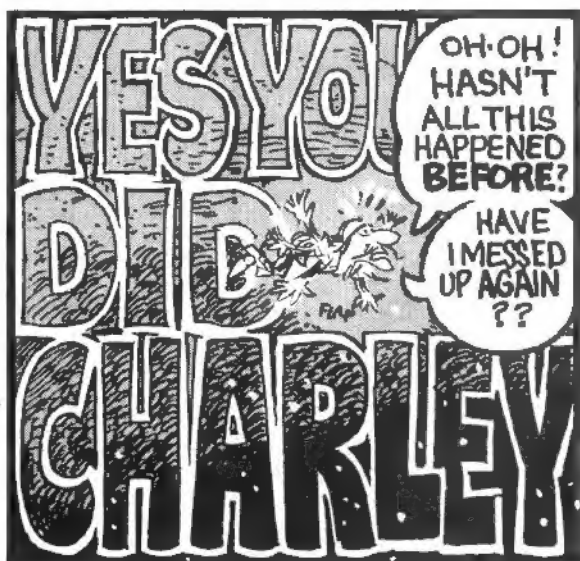
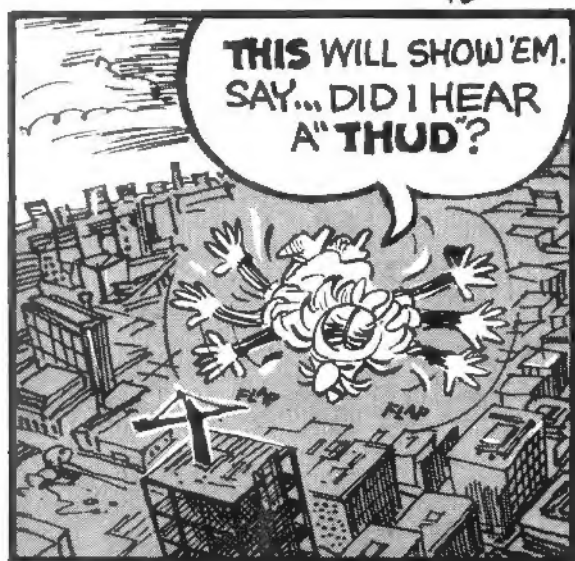
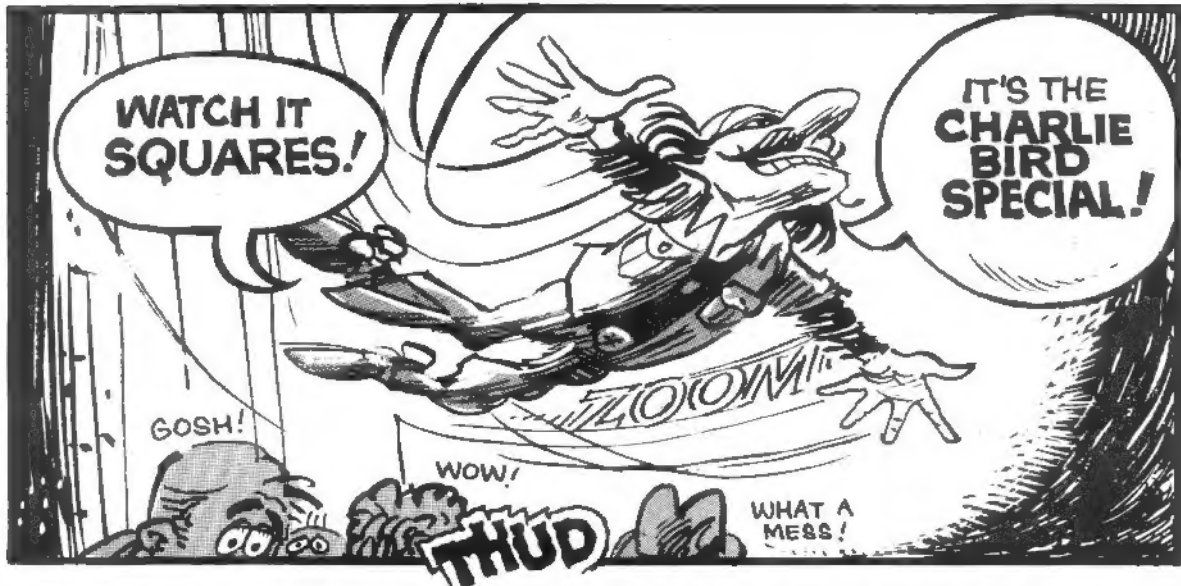






**GOTCHA**







# RIGHT AS USUAL CHARLEY

THE FUCKIN'  
UNIVERSE  
IS FUCKED!

# TRY TO DEVELOP A LITTLE OVERVIEW CHARLEY

OH SURE  
(SIGH) IT JUST  
DOESN'T SEEM  
FAIR, THAT'S  
ALL...

START  
OVER  
HERE

# FAIR? DON'T BELIEVE WE KNOW THE WORD CHARLEY

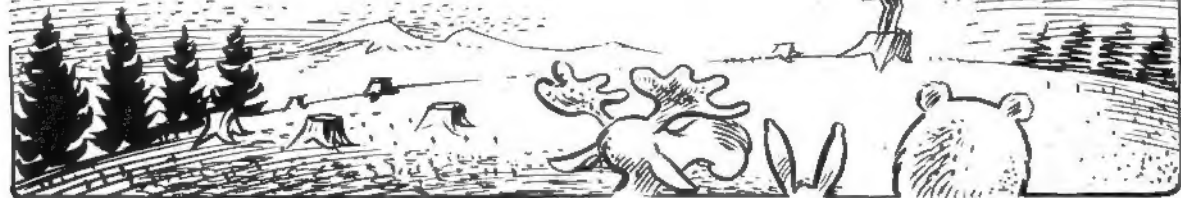
NATCH!  
IT FIGURES.

MEANWHILE:

# DOWN IN THE MEADOW

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...AND WHY IS IT  
THAT THESE FACTS  
ARE NOT WIDELY  
KNOWN?



AND WHAT ABOUT  
THE ISSUES?

I'VE GOT  
AN ISSUE  
FOR YOU

YES, AND WHAT  
MIGHT THAT BE?

GUESS

PAPER  
POLUTES

LEAVE  
IT TO  
BEAVERS

KEEP  
IT  
GREEN

COMICS  
EAT  
TREES

EVEN NOW  
YOU'RE STANDING  
ON THE TOMB OF  
THE UNKNOWN  
TREE

AH, COME ON -  
IT'S NOT THE  
TREES, IT'S  
THE PAPER

BESIDES, A MAJOR CITY  
NEWSPAPER USES 1/2 AN  
ACRE AN ISSUE, SO  
WHY ME?

"EVERY LITTER  
BIT HURTS"

EVER HEAR OF GLOBAL  
DEFORESTATION AND HABITAT  
DESTRUCTION?

SPECIES EXTINCTION?

OF COURSE

THAT TOO

WELL, HOW ABOUT  
AIR POLLUTION! WHAT  
ABOUT THE GREEN  
HOUSE EFFECT?

WHAP  
WHAP  
WHAP

YES!  
RIGHT!  
I AGREE!

BEFORE YOU MELT  
THE ICE CAPS AND  
FLOOD SAN FRANCISCO  
- LET'S CHECK THIS OUT.  
HOW MANY COPIES  
OF "ITCHY PLANET"  
DID YOU PRINT?

ER, WE ORDERED  
10,000

O.K. - LET'S  
SEE (MUMBLE)  
THAT'S ABOUT  
1,042 POUNDS  
OF PAPER...

I FIGURE THAT'S ABOUT 208 POUNDS OF CHEMICAL FILLER - SAY 10% RECYCLED STOCK AND THAT LEAVES 750 POUNDS OF VIRGIN FIBER-OR THE TOTAL SACRIFICE OF -ARE YOU READY FOR THIS?...



THREE TREES! ARE YOUR IDEAS WORTH THE LIVES OF THREE TREES?

THE CROWD GROWS UGLY



O.K.-O.K.-I CONFESS! SURE MY HANDS MAY BE DIRTY-BUT LOOK WHAT I'VE BEEN WORKING ON!

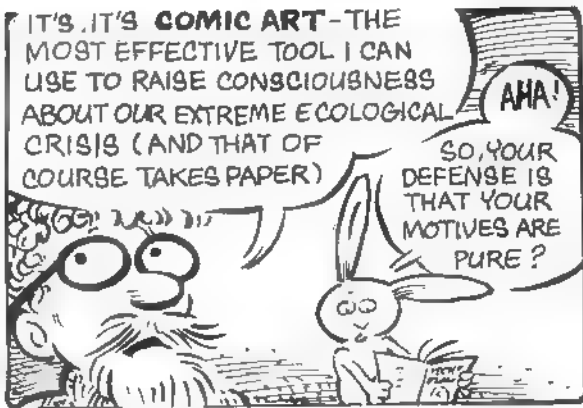
WHAT'S THIS?



IT'S IT'S **COMIC ART**-THE MOST EFFECTIVE TOOL I CAN USE TO RAISE CONSCIOUSNESS ABOUT OUR EXTREME ECOLOGICAL CRISIS (AND THAT OF COURSE TAKES PAPER)

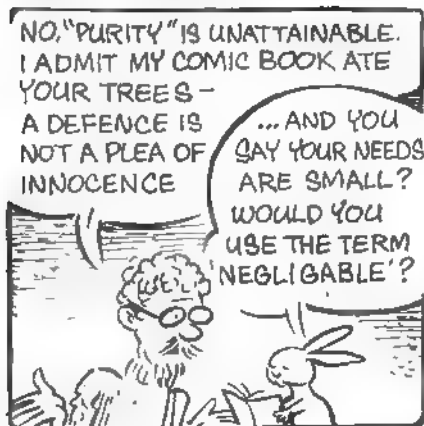
AHA!

SO, YOUR DEFENSE IS THAT YOUR MOTIVES ARE PURE?



NO, "PURITY" IS UNATTAINABLE. I ADMIT MY COMIC BOOK ATE YOUR TREES - A DEFENCE IS NOT A PLEA OF INNOCENCE

...AND YOU SAY YOUR NEEDS ARE SMALL? WOULD YOU USE THE TERM 'NEGIGABLE'?

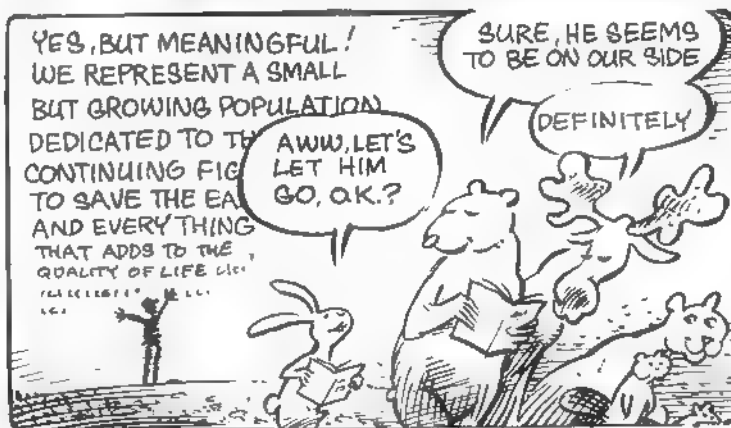


YES, BUT MEANINGFUL! WE REPRESENT A SMALL BUT GROWING POPULATION DEDICATED TO THE CONTINUING FIGHT TO SAVE THE EARTH AND EVERYTHING THAT ADDS TO THE QUALITY OF LIFE

AWW, LET'S LET HIM GO, O.K.?

SURE, HE SEEMS TO BE ON OUR SIDE

DEFINITELY



AND FURTHER MORE WE FERVENTLY BELIEVE THAT THERE IS A MOUNTAIN OF PEOPLE WHO SHARE THESE AND WE CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT

HOW ABOUT THIS ONE? WHAT'S HE PRINTING?

TV GUIDE

WELL WELL WELL...





# LOOK OUT FOLKS, IT'S THE CLASH OF THE CENTURIES

AND STILL GOING STRONG  
AFTER 5000 YEARS!



DRAWN & QUARTERED  
BY R. DEES

ON THE RIGHT, FIGHTING  
FOR FAITH HOPE AND A  
FAIR PROFIT



THAT CHAMPION OF CORPORATE POWER,  
SMOGGY SMILES!



CHEER  
OUR HERO!  
GO GO GO  
CLAP CLAP  
HOORAY!  
SHOUT  
STOMP! BLAST!  
CLAP! CHEER!

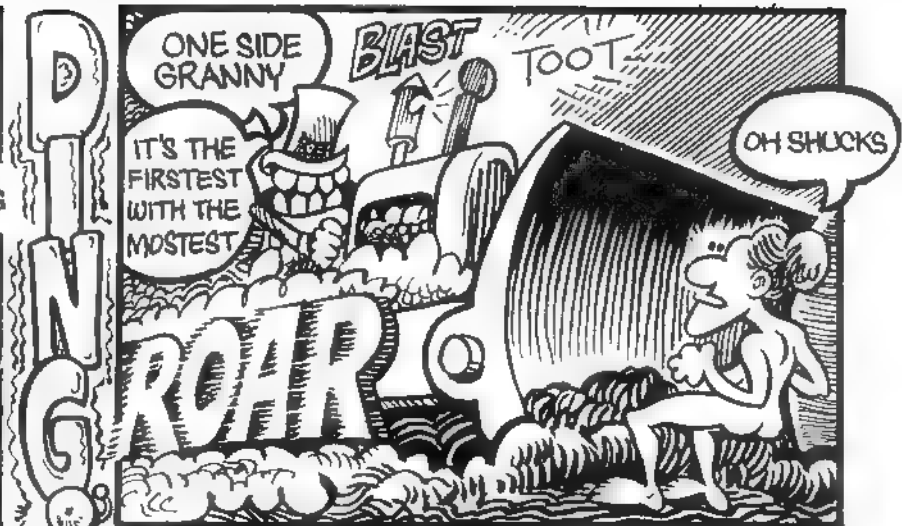
AND OVER HERE, WEARING  
WHAT'S LEFT, THAT HERETIC,  
THAT BARRIER TO PROGRESS,



THAT RAGGED PEACE MONGER...  
MOTHER NATURE!

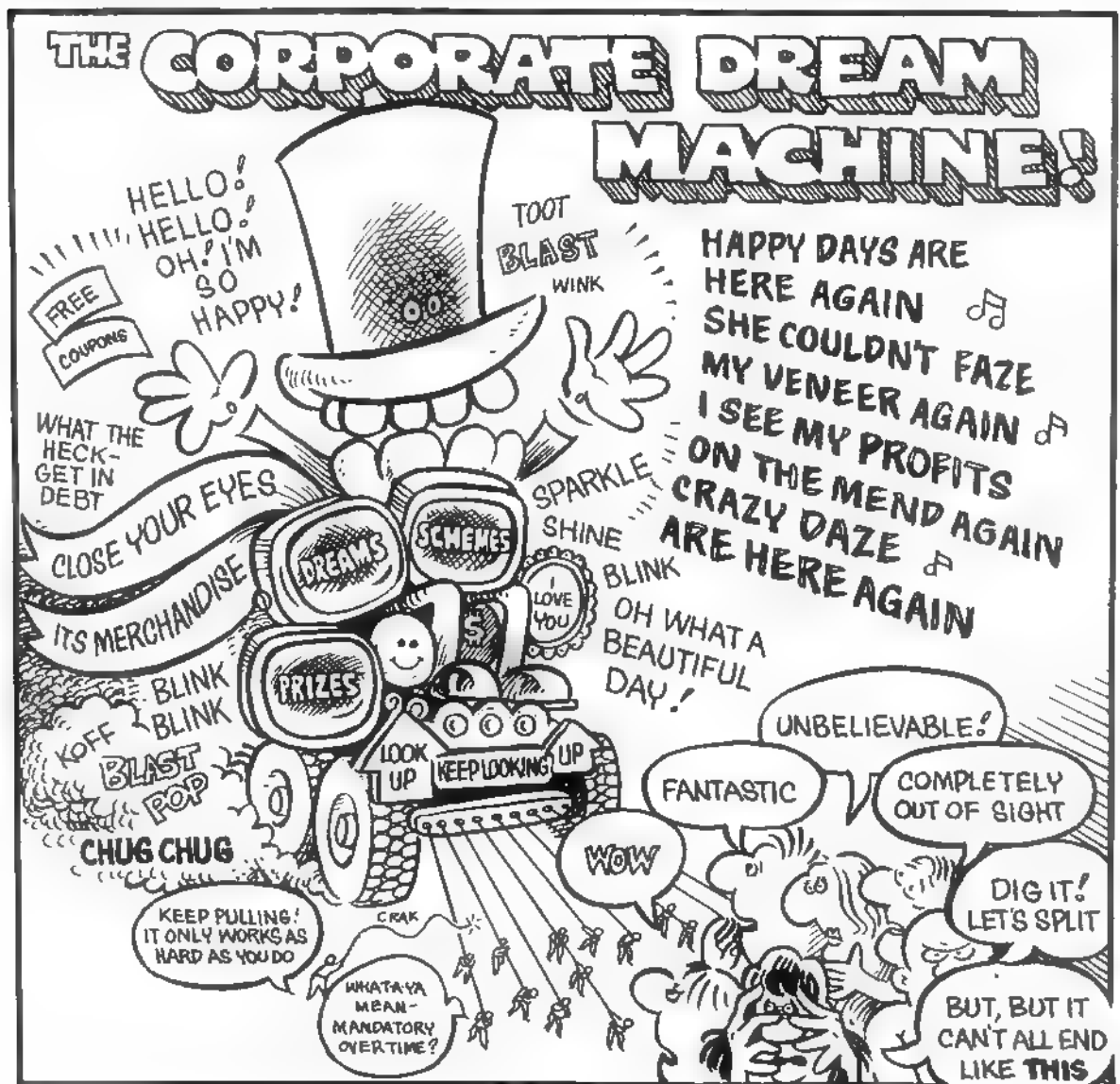
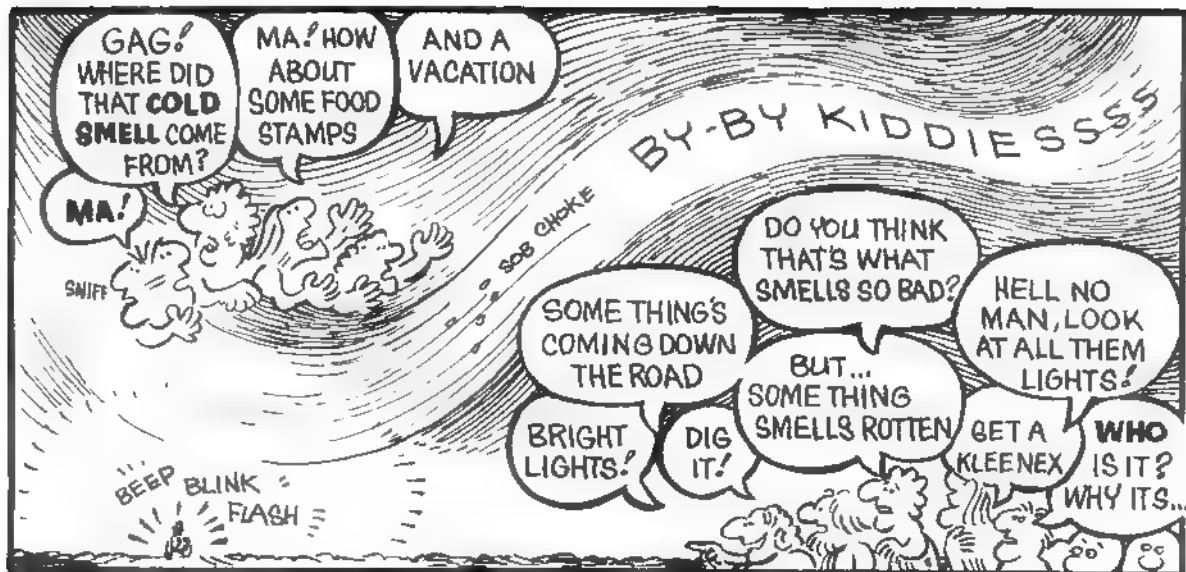


FREAK  
LOOK, I'VE GOT  
A WIFE AND 5 KIDS  
TO FEED  
BOOOOO  
WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?  
HISSSSSSSSSS  
WHEN YOU'VE SEEN  
ONE REDWOOD YOU'VE  
SEEN 'EM ALL!  
NAUGH  
GET LOST  
WEIRDO!









IF YOU LIKE WINNERS AND YOU  
THINK BIG IS BETTER-YOU'LL  
LOVE THESE GUYS-FOR AFTER  
SEVERAL FALSE STARTS  
NATURE FINALLY CREATED  
A REALLY HIGH CLASS  
ANIMAL! THE...



# KORPORATE REX!

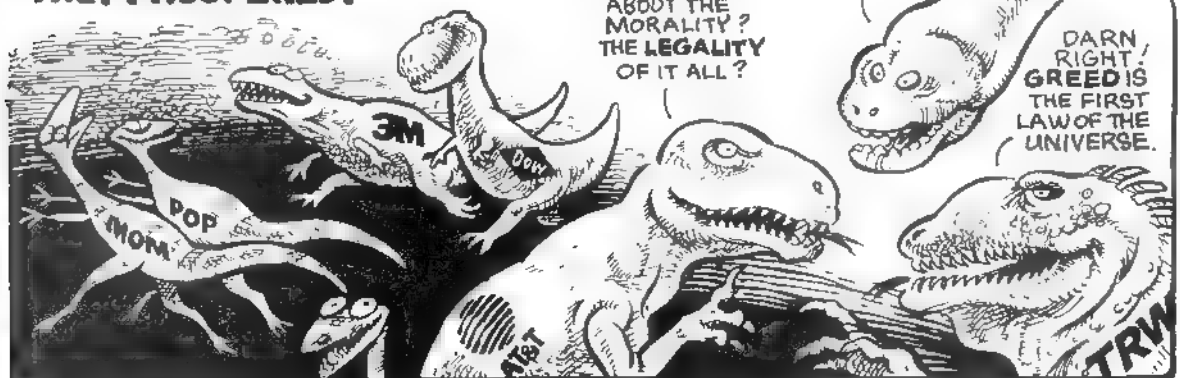
IT COULD EAT ANYTHING SMALLER THAN  
IT WAS (AND EVERYTHING WAS)

**THEY PROSPERED!**

DO YOU  
EVER WONDER  
ABOUT THE  
MORALITY?  
THE LEGALITY  
OF IT ALL?

ARE YOU NUTS?  
HEY, MISTER  
WE MAKE  
THE LAWS!

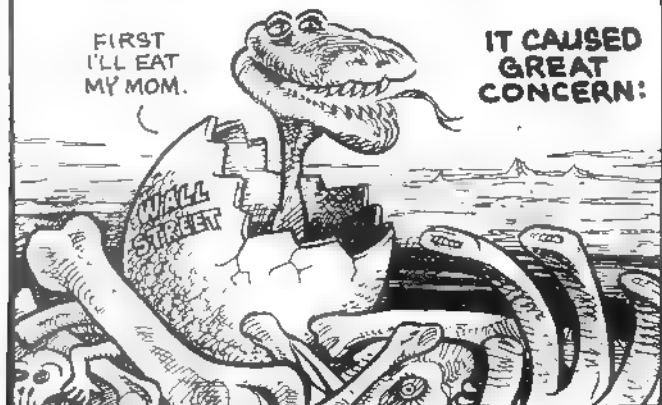
DARN,  
RIGHT,  
GREED IS  
THE FIRST  
LAW OF THE  
UNIVERSE.



BUT THEN ONE DAY AN ABERRATION  
HATCHED FROM A MUTANT EGG - THE  
FIERCE ARBITRAGEDON-BOSKII!

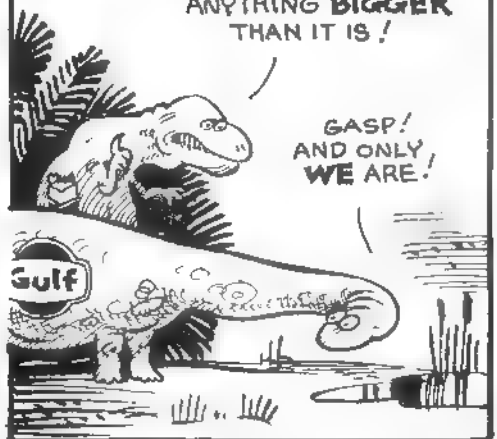
FIRST  
I'LL EAT  
MY MOM.

IT CAUSED  
GREAT  
CONCERN:



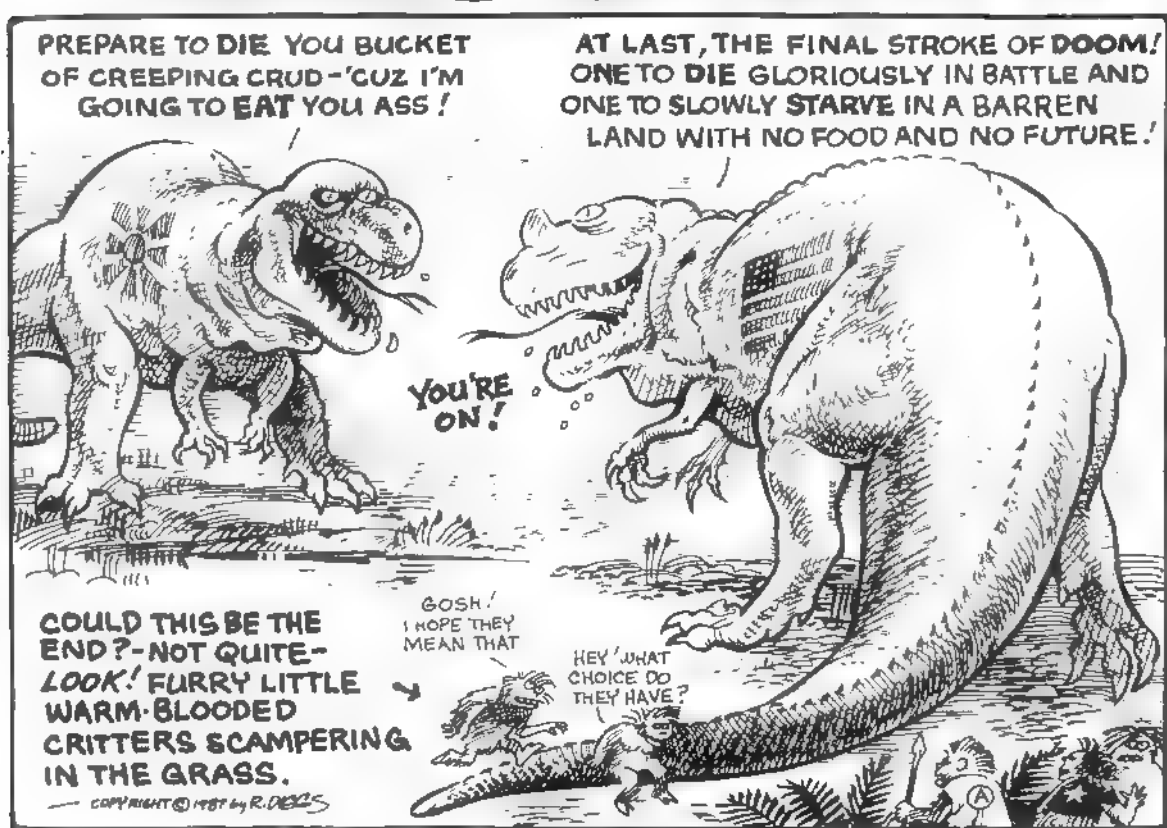
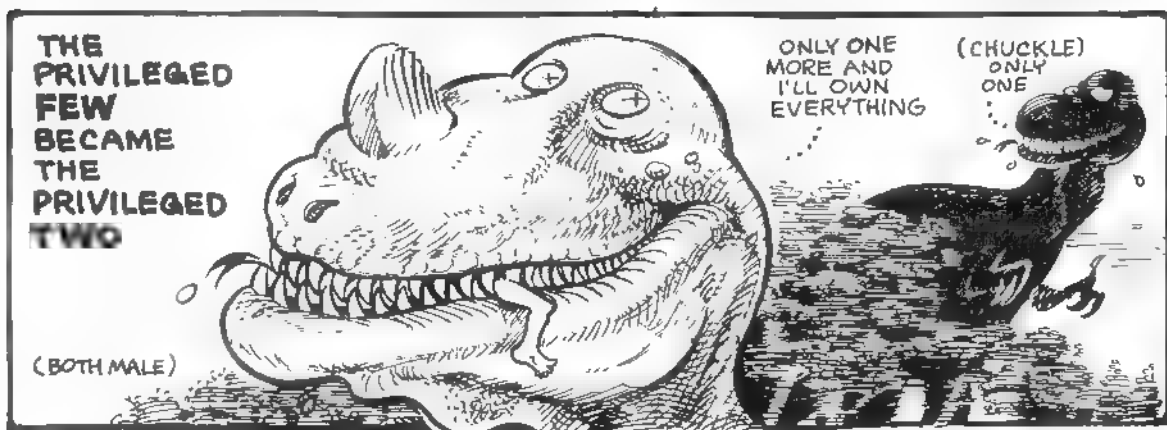
IT'S OUR MONOPOLISTIC  
GENE GONE MAD! IT  
CAN GOBBLE UP  
ANYTHING BIGGER  
THAN IT IS!

GASP!  
AND ONLY  
WE ARE!





**THE ARBITRAGE DON WAS AN ESPECIALLY VICIOUS LIFE-FORM AND SOON DEVASTATED THE STABLE CORPORATE WORLD-UNTIL THE LOGIC OF TOTAL CONSUMPTION REACHED ITS ULTIMATE CONCLUSION:**





**NOVEMBER 13, 1974. ABOUT 7:30 PM. HIWAY 74 IN OKLAHOMA:**



20 MORE  
MINUTES AND  
THOSE OUTLAWS  
WILL WISH THEY  
NEVER HEARD  
OF ME!

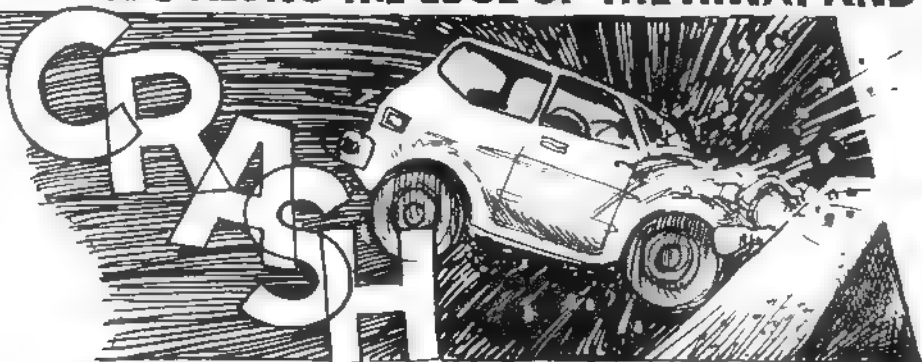
KAREN SILKWOOD'S  
STORY IS A DOCUMENTED  
EVENT. RECREATED BY  
R. DICAS WITH THANKS  
TO SHELBY & LENNY RUFAS

**BUT MOMENTS LATER, HER CAR, VIOLENTLY OUT OF CONTROL,**

**SCREEEEEEEE**



**CAREENS 1,000 YARDS ALONG THE EDGE OF THE HIWAY AND**



**CRASHES INTO A CONCRETE CULVERT KILLING KAREN SILKWOOD.**

DEAD! POOR KID-  
HMM..WONDER WHAT  
ALL THESE PAPERS  
ARE? BETTER  
PICK 'EM UP...

WHO KNOWS  
THEY MIGHT  
TELL US WHY  
SHE DIED-



**EVEN MORE! THEY MIGHT SOLVE A CRIME AND INDICT AN INDUSTRY!**

# LATE SUMMER 1972, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA:

**KAREN SILKWOOD**, 26 YEARS OLD, LEAVES SEVEN YEARS OF MARRIAGE AND THREE CHILDREN TO RETURN TO THE GREAT INTERESTS OF HER YOUNGER DAYS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

LET'S SEE... SCHOLARSHIP TO LAMAR COLLEGE- MARRIED... DIVORCED... THE CHILDREN?



THEY ARE WITH THEIR FATHER AND HIS WIFE

AND WHY DID YOU CHOOSE **KERR McGEE** AS A PLACE TO CONTINUE YOUR CAREER?



I WAS RAISED IN A SMALL TEXAS TOWN THAT REEKED OF OIL...

AND I WANTED TO HELP DEVELOP A **CLEAN SOURCE OF ENERGY LIKE ATOMIC POWER!**

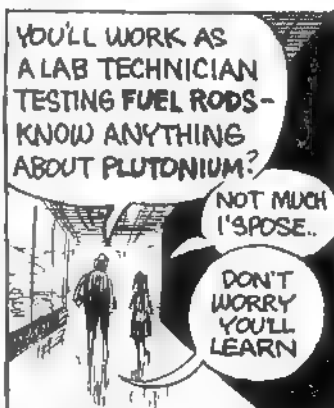
FINE -I'M SURE YOU'LL BE HAPPY WITH US.



YOU'LL WORK AS A LAB TECHNICIAN TESTING **FUEL RODS**- KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT **PLUTONIUM?**

NOT MUCH I'SPOSE..

DON'T WORRY YOU'LL LEARN



**KERR-McGEE** AN OIL CO. THAT EARLY BECAME THE NATIONS LARGEST PRODUCER OF ATOMIC FUEL INCLUDING... **PLUTONIUM** "THE MOST DANGEROUS SUBSTANCE KNOWN TO MAN" ONE POUND OF WHICH, EVENLY SPREAD OVER THE EARTH, COULD KILL US ALL!

## THEN 3 MONTHS LATER:

KAREN, YOU WORK HARD FOR ATOMIC ENERGY-BUT HOW ABOUT **UNIONISM?**



OUR LOCAL IS GOING ON **STRIKE** FOR SAFETY AND BENEFITS

YOU CAN COUNT ON ME!

MAN, THEY RUSHED THOSE **SCABS** IN SO FAST THEY DIDN'T MISS ONE BEAT OF PRODUCTION!



RIGHT. WITH SAFETY TRAINING OF 4 HOURS INSTEAD OF 5 DAYS!

YEAH, AND ONE OF THOSE SCABS IS THE **SAFETY OFFICER** NO LESS!

AFTER 10 WEEKS THE UNION SIGNS A WORSE CONTRACT

DAMN! I HAD SUCH HIGH HOPES WHEN I STARTED-WHAT A DISAPPOINTMENT!



I KNOW IT IS, DREW, BUT AT LEAST IT BROUGHT US TOGETHER

AND FOR A WHILE THAT SUMMER OF '73 THEY WERE HAPPY TOGETHER..



BUT, AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS, KAREN FINDS HER OWN APARTMENT. AND, ALTHOUGH THEY CONTINUE TO SEE EACH OTHER, KAREN SPENDS MORE OF HER TIME AT WORK, AND WITH **OCAW** (OIL CHEMICAL AND ATOMIC WORKERS INTERNATIONAL)

**JULY 1974**



ALL AFFECTED PERSONNEL QUICKLY SHOWER BUT..



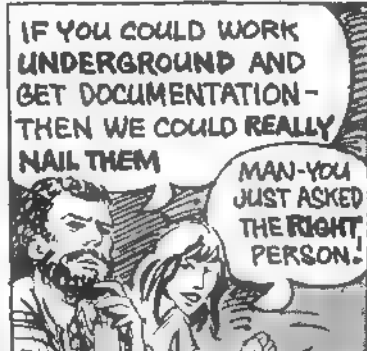
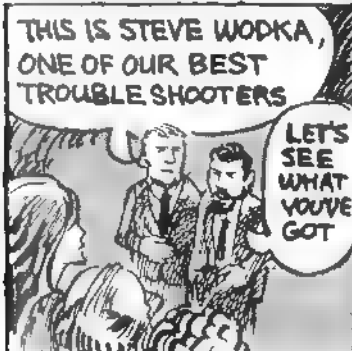
KAREN RUNS FOR 3 SEAT STEERING COMMITTEE OF OCAW LOCAL 5-283



OCAW BEGINS INTERVIEWS WITH COMPANY EMPLOYEES



**SEPTEMBER 1974** THE STEERING COMM. FLIES TO WASHINGTON DC TO MEET WITH OCAW/INTERNATIONAL



THEN NEXT DAY:

\* ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION



**OCTOBER 1974**

DR. DONALD GEESAMAN AND DR. DEAN ABRAHAMSON SPEAK TO THE OCAW MEMBERS ON PLUTONIUM AND THE DANGERS THEY FACE ON THE JOB

...MY CONCERN IS WITH THE 73\* WORKERS WHO HAVE BEEN INTERNALLY CONTAMINATED BY AIR BORNE PARTICLES



\* THIS INCLUDES KAREN

AND WHILE WE HAVEN'T ANY CASES OF CANCER YET, OVER THE NEXT 10-15 YEARS, THESE PEOPLE RUN A DISTURBINGLY HIGH RISK OF GETTING IT



WAIT A MINUTE! WHAT ABOUT THE A.E.C. GUIDELINES OF ALLOWABLE LEVELS?

IF YOU CAN MEASURE IT IN THE AIR AT ALL IT'S TOO HIGH-THE GUIDELINES ARE MEANINGLESS!

OH MY GOD. CANCER

PANICKED, KAREN NOW NEEDS SLEEPING PILLS

I'LL GET ANOTHER JOB AS SOON AS I CAN GET ALL THE PROOF I NEED..



HA! WAIT TILL WODKA SEES THIS

**THEN ON NOV. 5**

AS SHE COMES TO WORK :

KAREN! YOU HAVE A TRACE OF PLUTONIUM ON YOUR SKIN!



BETTER SHOWER

**AND NOVEMBER 6**

HOLY SHIT! I WAS CONTAMINATED AGAIN THIS MORNING!



**AND NOVEMBER 7**

HERE IT IS AGAIN.. AND THIS TIME WE GET IT ON A NASAL SMEAR AS WELL



HOW MUCH OF THIS CAN A PERSON TAKE?

AT KARENS REQUEST A TEAM OF K.M. INSPECTORS TEST HER APT. FOR RADIATION

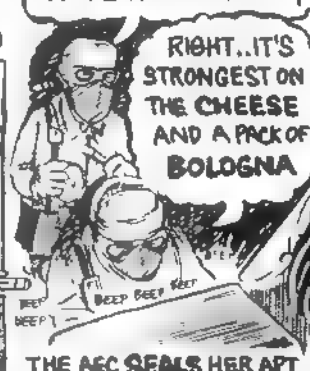
HEY! THE STUFF IS ON THE CLOCK

MAN IT'S EVERYWHERE



IT GETS STRONGER OVER HERE..

IN THE REFRIGERATOR?



RIGHT..IT'S STRONGEST ON THE CHEESE AND A PACK OF BOLOGNA

KAREN CALLS WASHINGTON

STEVE WODKA? OH STEVE SOMETHING VERY WEIRD IS GOING ON HERE



I'LL FLY RIGHT OUT!

AND LATER AT DREX'S APT

HEY-YOU TAKING PILLS BY DAY NOW?



I CAN'T CALM DOWN I THINK I'M GOING TO DIE (SOS)

**NOVEMBER 10**

WODKA FLIES TO OKLAHOMA AND ARRANGES FOR KAREN AND TWO OTHERS WHO HAD BEEN IN HER APT. TO BE FLOWN TO THE AEC LAB IN AMARILLO TEXAS FOR A TWO DAY SERIES OF TESTS

WE ARE HAPPY TO TELL YOU THAT AFTER A 'FULL BODY COUNT' AND OTHER TESTS, WE FEEL NONE OF YOU NEED WORRY ABOUT PLUTONIUM POISONING.



**NOVEMBER 12**

HI MOM-GOOD NEWS BUT I'M STILL A LITTLE SCARED, I DON'T KNOW HOW IT HAPPENED!



COME HOME MONEY

I WILL, BUT FIRST I HAVE A COUPLE THINGS TO DO!

**NOVEMBER 13**

**6 P.M.**

CONTINUING HER UNION WORK, SHE MEETS IN CONTRACT SESSION WITH K.M. ALL MORNING, SEES THE A.E.C. ABOUT HER APARTMENT THAT AFTERNOON AND JOINS A UNION STRATEGY SESSION THAT EVENING...

DREW-DON'T FORGET TO PICK UP STEVE WODKA AND TIMES' REPORTER DAVID BURNHAM AT THE AIRPORT!



YES, YES I KNOW. AND MEET YOU AT 8 AT THE HOLIDAY INN, RIGHT?

THAT'S RIGHT- 8 O'CLOCK



HOW DO YOU FEEL? AND DO YOU HAVE EVERYTHING?

I'M FINE- A LITTLE EXCITED AND BELIEVE ME, I HAVE EVERYTHING

KAREN LEAVES THE UNION REPS WITH HER FOLDER AT 7:15

**8:45 P.M.**

I'M WORRIED. SHE SHOULD BE HERE BY NOW! CALL THE UNION



? WHAT THE HELL? THE PHONE IS DEAD!

FINALLY AN HOUR LATER THE 3 HEAR THE TERRIBLE NEWS AND RUSH TO THE CRASH SITE WHERE...

EVERYTHING IS GONE!



OFFICER? WHERE IS HER CAR? DID YOU SEE ANY PAPERS A FOLDER?

AND TROOPER RICK FAGEN HAS ALL THE ANSWERS



THE CAR WAS TOWED TO SEBRING GARAGE. AND PAPERS? I STUFFED ALL I COULD FIND IN THE WRECK-

YOU CAN CLAIM THE CAR IN THE MORNING

THAT NIGHT OFFICIALS OF THE A.E.C. AND KERR McGEHEE VISITED SEBRING GARAGE "TO CHECK FOR RADIATION" ONCE ABOUT MIDNIGHT AND AGAIN JUST BEFORE MORNING. **THE EVIDENCE KAREN SILKWOOD DIED FOR HAS NEVER BEEN FOUND!**

NOTHING 'HAS ANYONE BEEN IN HERE?



LIKE I TOLD YOU, THESE GUYS...

AND IN NEDERLAND TEXAS - BECAUSE ALL HER CLOTHES WERE IN HER CONTAMINATED APT.-KAREN IS BURIED IN A BRAND NEW DRESS



**QUESTIONS REMAIN UNANSWERED**

THE HIGHWAY PATROL SAYS SHE 'DOZED' AND JUST DROVE OFF THE ROAD. BUT A.C. PIPKINS OF THE DALLAS ACCIDENT RECONSTRUCTION LAB SAYS...

I'VE STUDIED SOME 2,000 ACCIDENTS AND FROM THE SKIDMARKS\* AND DENTS IN THE CAR I'D SAY IT WAS **HIT AND RUN!**



\* THE ROAD WAS REPAVED THE NEXT DAY

AND WHO POISONED HER APARTMENT?

AM THE BROAD DID IT TO HERSELF TO EMBARRASS THE COMPANY



SAYS A KERR McGEHEE SPOKESMAN

INVESTIGATIONS BY THE HIGHWAY PATROL, THE FBI, THE U.S. SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAVE ALL BEEN DROPPED BEFORE THEY EVER BECAME PUBLIC **WHY?**

**WHAT DID KAREN SILKWOOD KNOW THAT WE SHOULD KNOW TOO?**

AND LISTEN KIDS, YOU  
MUST MAKE THEM REALIZE  
**DINOSAURS AREN'T  
DYING ANYMORE!**

YES  
MA...

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WE WILL  
DO OUR  
BEST!

YOU BET! WHERE  
ARE THEY? DO YOU  
SEE WHAT  
WE HAVE  
COME FOR?

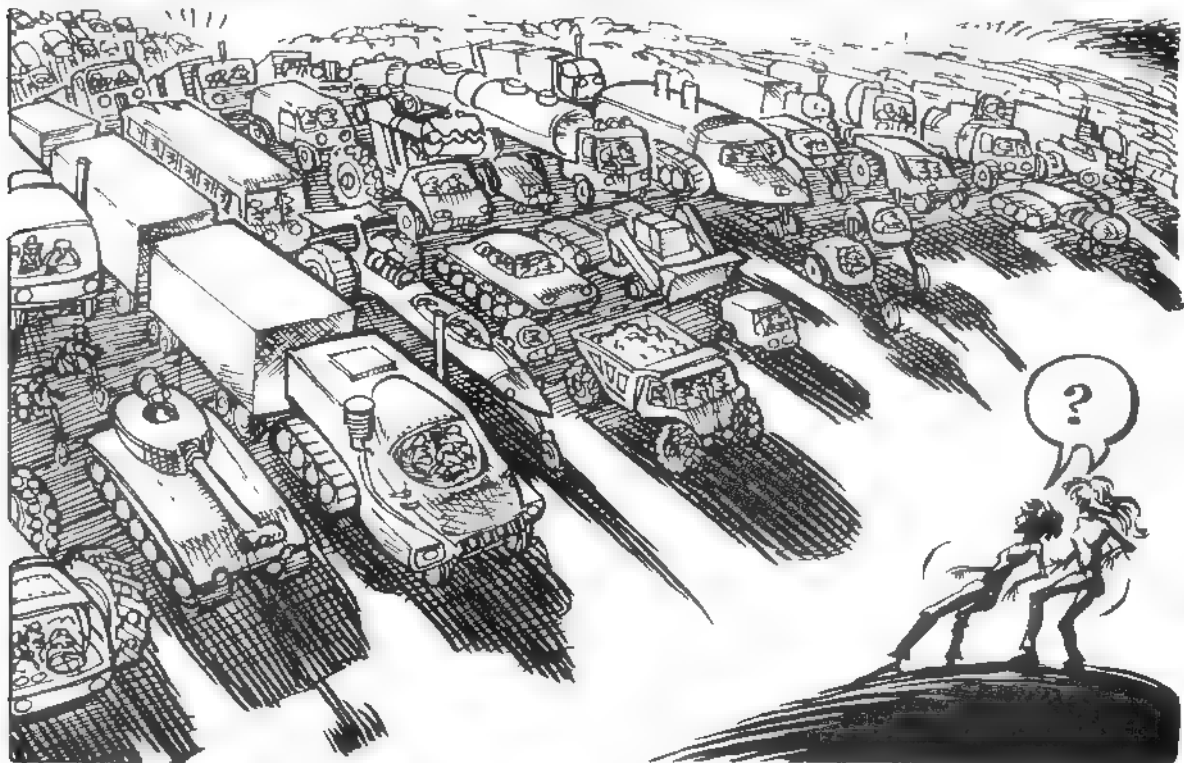
YES!  
LOOK! FLAME  
ABOVE THE  
EASTERN  
HORIZON.

HOLY MOTHER,  
OF MADNESS.  
WHAT DO WE  
DO NOW?

NOW DON'T FRET  
WE'RE NOT EXACTLY  
HELPLESS YOU KNOW,  
MOTHER NATURE  
IS ON OUR SIDE!

OH SURE!  
YOU KNOW THAT,  
BUT DOES THAT  
KNOW THAT?

**INDUSTRIALIZATION PLUS EXPONENTIAL GROWTH!**



EXPONENTIAL GROWTH, YOU SAY?

IT'S LIKE COMPOUND INTEREST...THAT MEANS IT DOUBLES EVERY 10 YEARS OR SO!

YOU MEAN THIS WHOLE THING WILL BE TWO TIMES BIGGER?

YES, AND THEN 4 TIMES BIGGER THEN 8 TIMES BIGGER THEN 16 TIMES

MAYBE IF WE CAN STOP THEM! PERHAPS EXPLAIN THAT...

YEARS LEFT FOR NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES

TIN	18
IRON	93
COAL	117
COPPER	21
OIL	20

MOTHER SIMPLY HASN'T GOT THE PARTS!

GOLD... 10  
ZINC... 10  
\* FROM ENERGY FOR STRAIN, BURN, CLACK & BITE \*

AND YOU! YOU'RE GOOD WITH WORDS! I'LL GET THEIR ATTENTION...

WHY NOT? WE HAVE TO START SOMEWHERE

AND YOU EXPLAIN THINGS!

IN SWIFT PRECISION, MOTHER'S TWO SEASONED VETERANS SWEEP INTO ACTION!

LOOK MAC! TWO CHICKS!

OH YEAH?

STOP!

ROAR

CRUNCH THUMP

IMAGINE THAT!

THANK MOM, THE TRUTH IS INDESTRUCTIBLE!

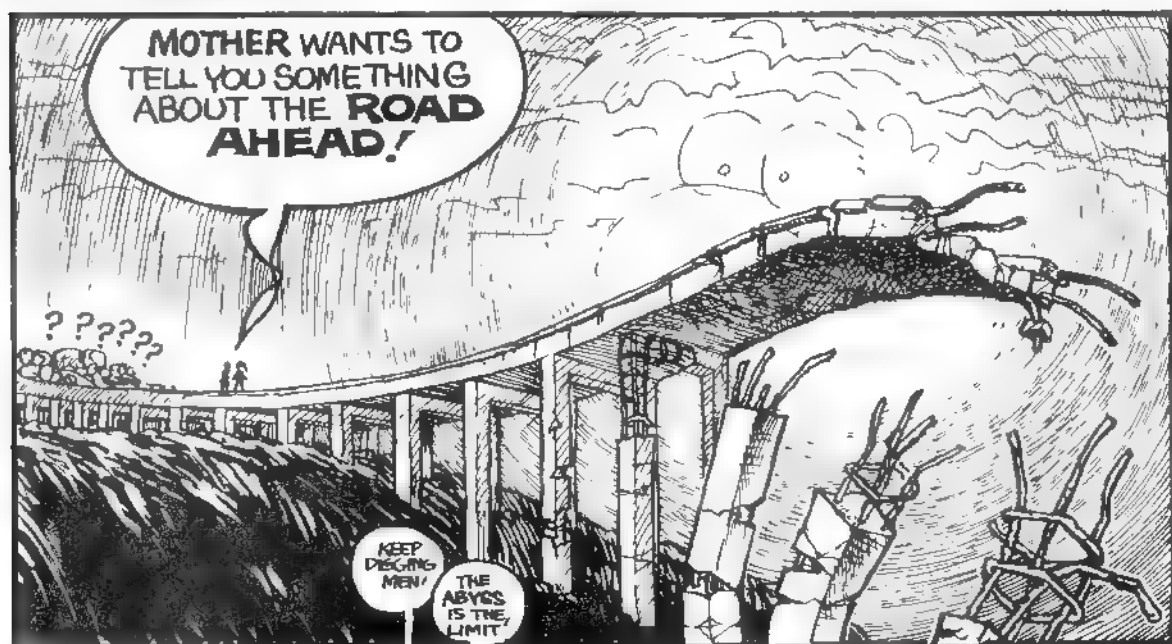
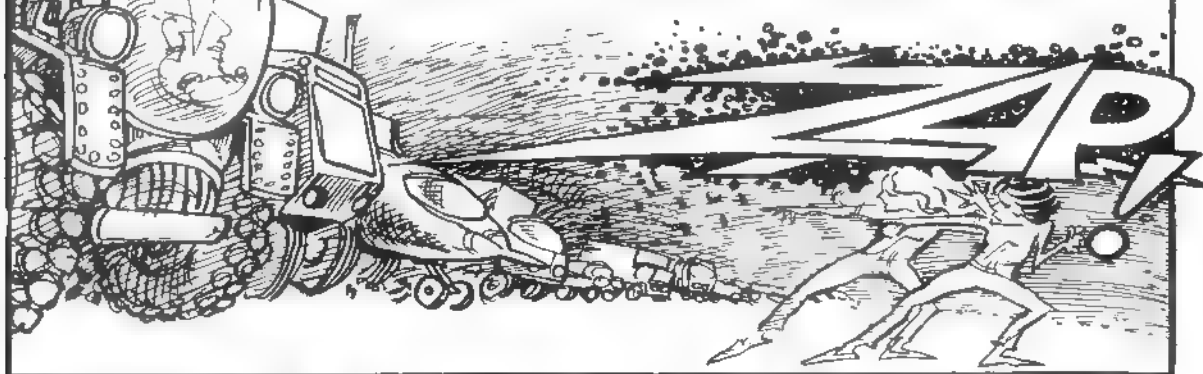
OH

PERMIT NO. 007





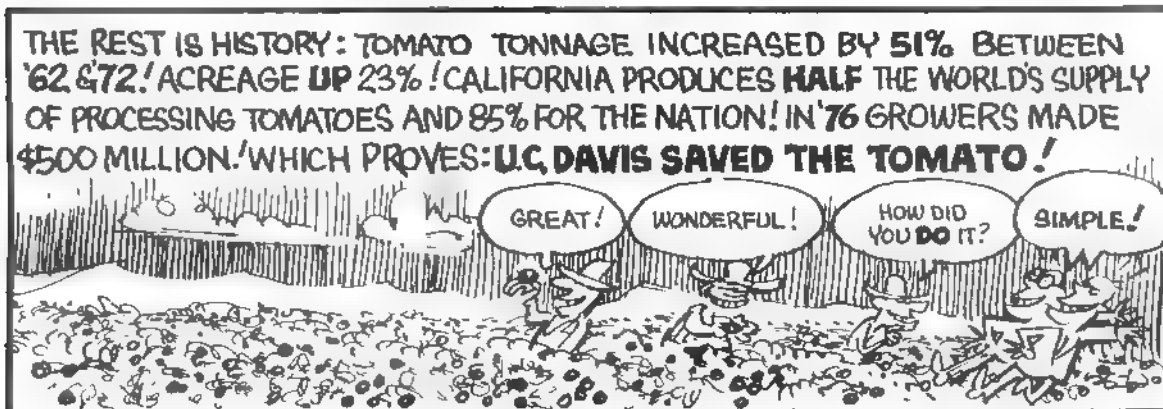
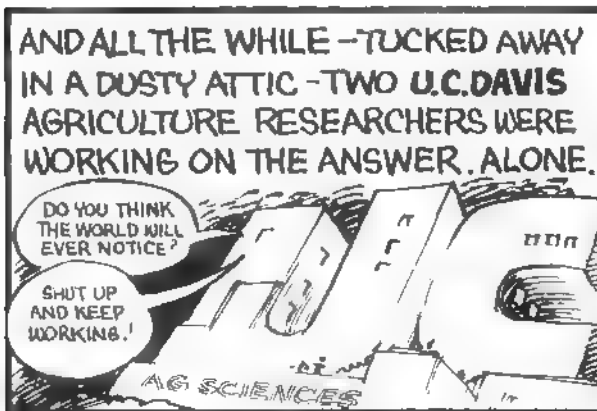
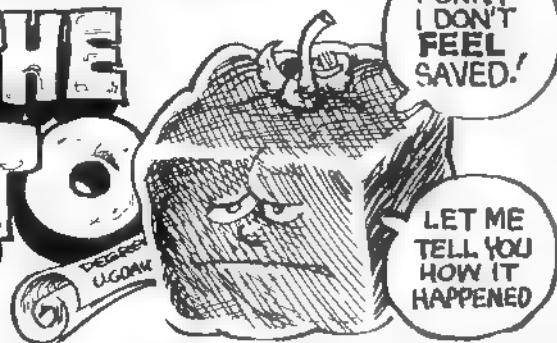
...AND IN THE FACE OF PROGRESS...A NATURAL EVENT!



THE WONDERS OF PUBLIC FUNDED INSTITUTIONS OR  
HOW U.C. DAVIS, A LAND GRANT COLLEGE...

# SAVED THE TOMATO

COPYRIGHT © 1978 BY RDIGGS WITH THANKS TO ROSE STARK



# WITH MECHANIZATION AND THE PROCESSING TOMATO!

WHOOEE!  
DOES IT WORK?

DOES  
IT WORK?  
WE'LL  
SAY!

FROM 50,000 FARM WORKERS  
IN '64, 32,000 WERE LAID OFF  
BY '72! AND THOSE WHO STAYED  
TOOK A WAGE CUT!

FANTASTIC!

ER-AH  
WHERE DO  
THEY GO  
NOW?

OH-TO SPONGE OFF WELFARE,  
THINGS LIKE THAT BUT AT  
**PUBLIC EXPENSE** - NO  
COST TO YOU!

OH YEAH!  
WE'LL IN THAT  
CASE ...

BUT WAIT! WE HAVE  
ANOTHER SURPRISE  
FOR YOU...

WE ALSO ELIMINATED  
**85% OF THE GROWERS!**

THESE MACHINES  
NEED **BIG FIELDS!**

OH WELL THAT  
**STILL LEAVES  
SOME OF US!**

YES, AND SUCH  
FAMILIAR  
NAMES TOO!

AG-BIZ IS THE  
NATIONS BIGGEST  
BUSINESS!  
\$1 OUT OF \$9 IN  
G.N.P. GOES TO  
FOOD INDUSTRY!



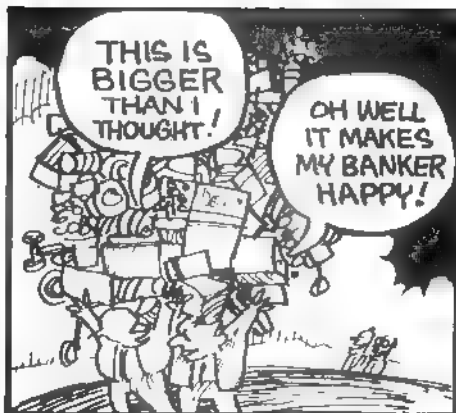


THEN YOU'RE READY FOR THE ENTIRE PACKAGE! FOR **OPTIMUM** RESULTS YOU NEED 150-200 ACRE FIELDS, OUR SPECIAL TOMATO THAT GROWS TO A UNIFORM SIZE, CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS AND OUR SPRAY THAT RIPENS THE FRUIT ALL AT ONCE!



THIS IS BIGGER THAN I THOUGHT!

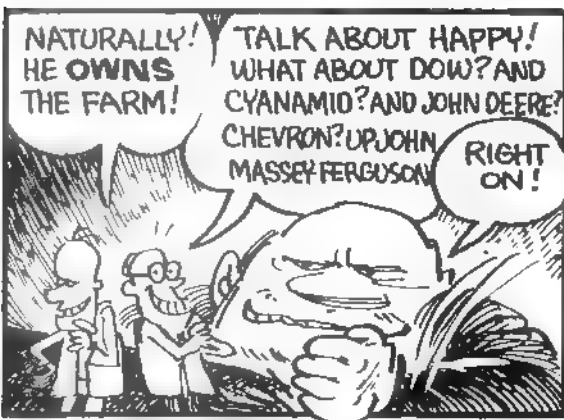
OH WELL IT MAKES MY BANKER HAPPY!



NATURALLY! HE **OWNS** THE FARM!

TALK ABOUT HAPPY! WHAT ABOUT DOW? AND CYANAMID? AND JOHN DEERE? CHEVRON? UP JOHN MASSEY FERGUSON

RIGHT ON!



AND WHEN **OTHER** PROBLEMS CAME UP IN '74...

SAY, WHAT ABOUT THIS **CESAR CHAVEZ** AND HIS UFW UNION?

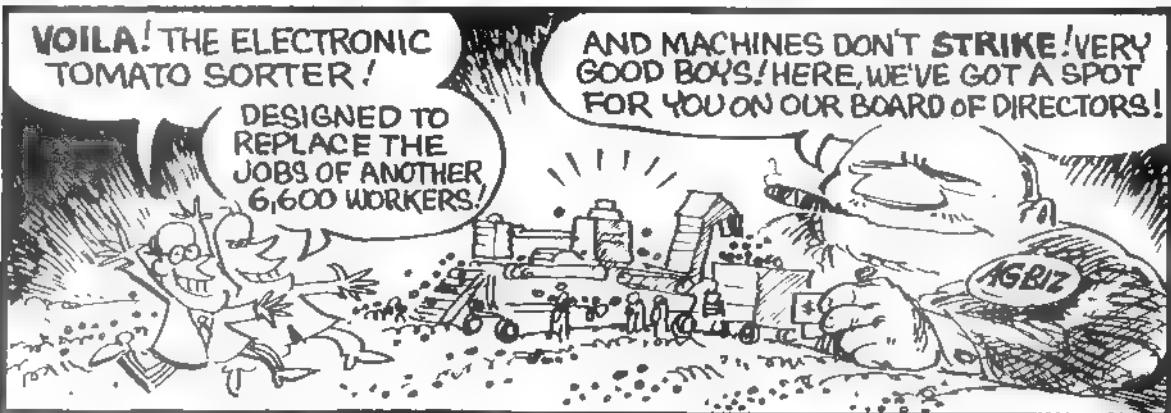
SPOSE HIS FARM WORKERS WANT A LIVING WAGE?



**VOILA!** THE ELECTRONIC TOMATO SORTER!

DESIGNED TO REPLACE THE JOBS OF ANOTHER 6,600 WORKERS!

AND MACHINES DON'T **STRIKE!** VERY GOOD BOYS! HERE, WE'VE GOT A SPOT FOR YOU ON OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS!



OKAY! OKAY! ONE LAST QUESTION! WHAT DOES THE CONSUMER GET? —WHAT ABOUT THE **PUBLIC**? THE ONES WHO PAID FOR **93%** OF THE U.C. DAVIS MECHANIZATION RESEARCH?

THAT'S ME FOLKS! **UC-82!** I MAY LOOK STRANGE, FEEL TOUGH, TASTE FUNNY, AND **COST MORE!** BUT THE BIG MACHINE REALLY NEEDS ME!



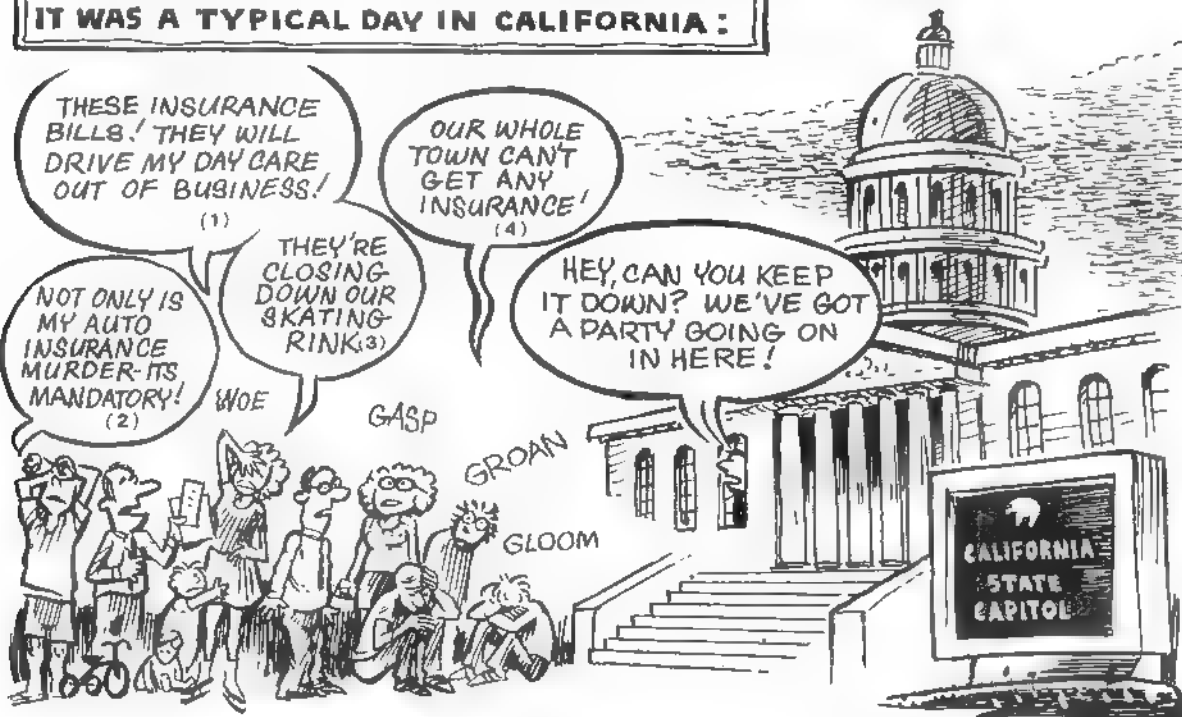
# CALIFORNIA

## Scheming

by R. DIGGS  
WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO —  
BOB SHIREMAN

©1982 by R. DIGGS

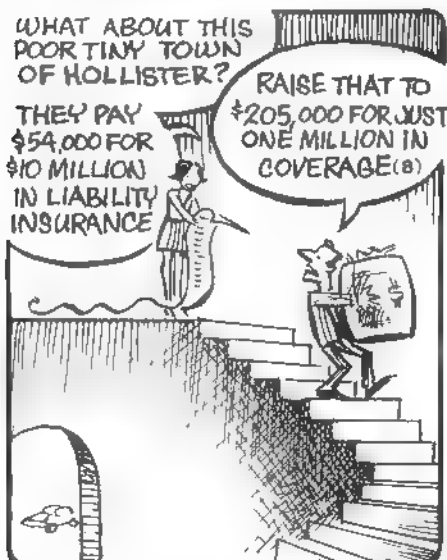
IT WAS A TYPICAL DAY IN CALIFORNIA:



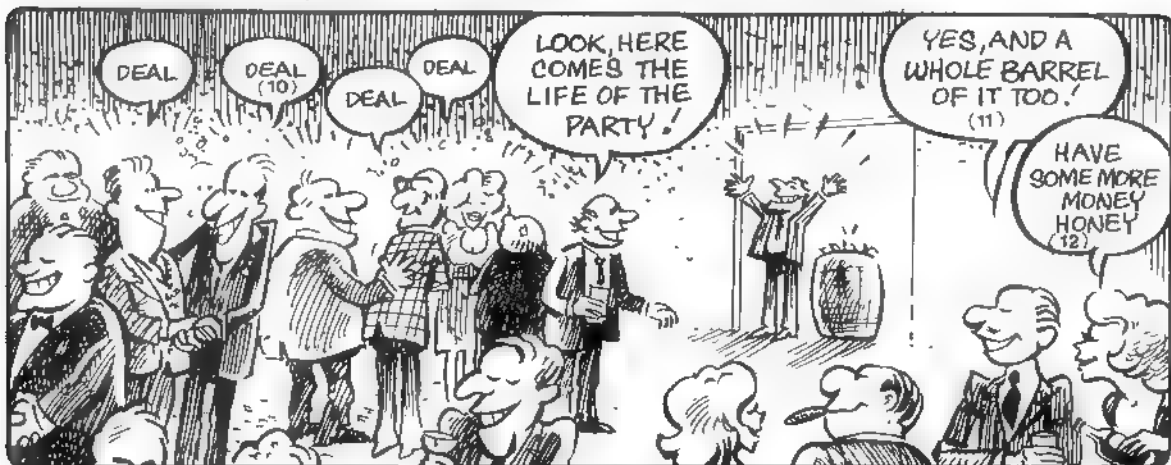
### FOOTNOTES

1. In 1985, day care centers found their insurance cancelled or rates up by 300% or more
2. Auto insurance is required in California but many drivers even those with clean driving records, cannot find companies willing to insure them at any price
3. Many recreational establishments closed because they were unable to get liability insurance
4. Local governments were also hit hard by the insurance crisis in 1985
5. The California Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association gave \$213,235 to state legislators in 1987
6. The beer wholesalers convinced legislators to grant them territorial monopolies. The bill, opposed by consumer groups, was vetoed by the governor

MEANWHILE; AT THE TOP OF THE TALLEST BUILDING IN TOWN:



WHEN HE ARRIVES, THE NON STOP PARTY IS GOING NON STOP



7. Legislators raised \$25 million in 1987 when there was no election. Most of the money came in large contributions from special interests in Sacramento.
8. Hollister stopped bus service after it could not get adequate insurance at a reasonable price.
9. Insurance company campaign contributions, totalling more than \$1 million in 1987 alone, insure that the legislature will not reform the industry.
10. Lobbyists say their money only buys "access" to legislators. With access, of course, issues can be discussed and deals made.
11. Legislators' fundraisers are usually \$500 events, many contributors buy several tickets.
12. There are no limits on campaign contributions in California.
13. Fundraising in Sacramento starts again the day after the election. Politicians use the money to scare off potential challengers, and to finance newcomers who will be loyal to them.

AND HE SOON STARTS  
MAKING FRIENDS

HI KID!  
HAVE A  
CIGAR!

GEE! I'M SORTA NEW  
HERE, WHAT AM I SPOSED  
TO DO WITH  
ALL THIS  
MONEY?

GET REELECTED  
AND BUILD POWER.  
YOU BIRD BRAIN.  
IT'S A LEGAL  
CAMPAIGN  
CONTRIBUTION.  
(13)

BUT THIS  
ISN'T AN  
ELECTION  
YEAR—  
IS IT?

RE-ELECTION  
YEAR, IT'S ALWAYS  
RE-ELECTION  
YEAR—SIT  
DOWN, LET  
ME EXPLAIN

YOU SEE,  
DURING THE  
OFF YEAR

WHEN OUR  
POTENTIAL  
OPPOSITION  
ISN'T RAISING  
ANY MONEY...  
(14)

MEANWHILE:

SORRY KIDS, NO  
PLAYGROUND

WHY  
NOT!?

YOU SEE, BY THE RULES  
OF THE GAME, MONEY  
COUNTS, AND THE BIG  
SPENDERS WHO TOOK  
YOUR PLAYGROUND HAVE  
MORE OF IT THAN  
WE DO

HECK

HEY!

CHANGE  
THE  
RULES

CHANGE  
THE RULES?!

DARN  
RIGHT!

EVEN  
A CHILD  
CAN  
SEE...

THAT  
WHEN  
"MONEY  
IS THE  
MOTHER'S  
MILK OF  
POLITICS"  
...THEN  
YOU MUST...  
(15)

CONTROL  
THE MONEY!  
(16)

LIMIT SPENDING  
(17)

STOP MONEY  
TRANSFERS  
BETWEEN  
POLITICIANS  
MAKE IT  
EASIER FOR  
HONEST  
POLITICIANS  
TO RUN  
(18)

14 Incumbents raised 98% of the \$25 million raised in 1987, a non-election year. When the election rolls around, it's almost impossible for challengers to catch up.

15 The late state Treasurer Jesse Unruh made this oft-quoted statement after his tenure as Speaker of the Assembly.

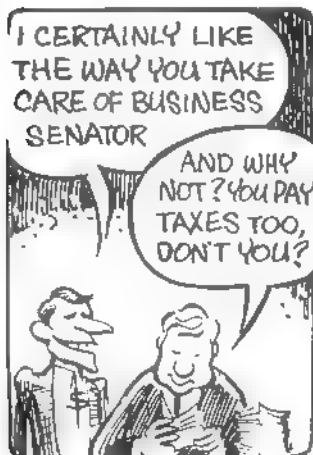
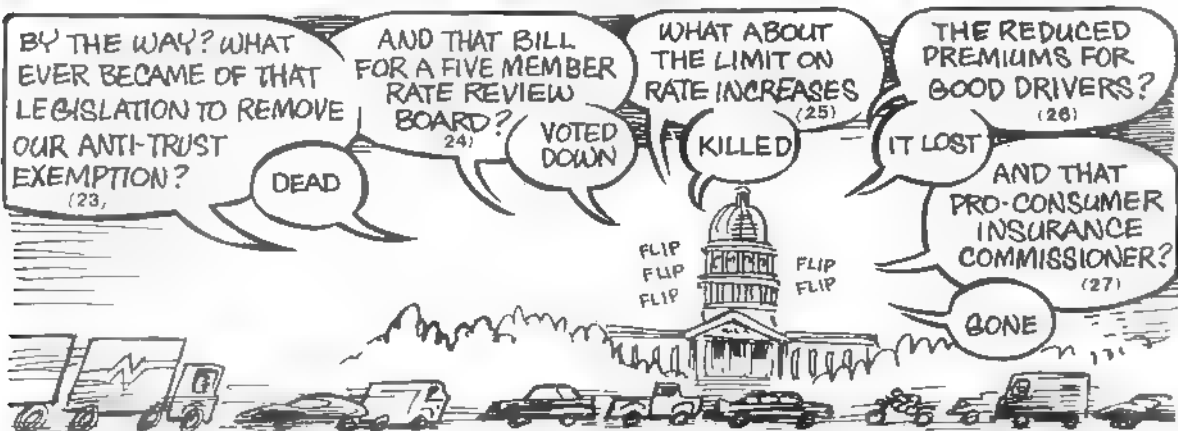
16 Proposition 68 limits campaign contributions to politicians.

17 Proposition 68 caps campaign spending to limit the potential for corruption.

18 Legislative leaders elect and control followers through money transfers.

19 Proposition 68 makes elected officials more independent by matching small and in-district contributions with funds voluntarily earmarked by state taxpayers.





THAT'S RIGHT FOLKS! YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR

20. Because money flows to members of this committee from banks and insurance companies, this is known as a "juice committee".

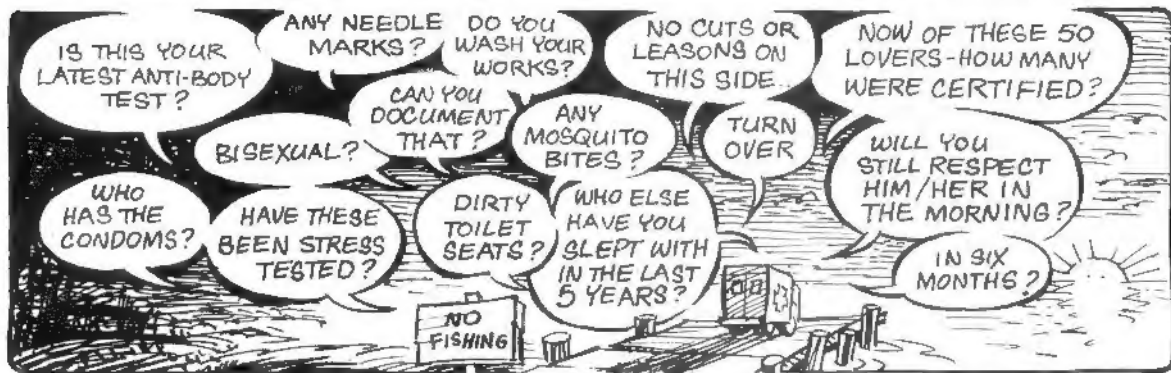
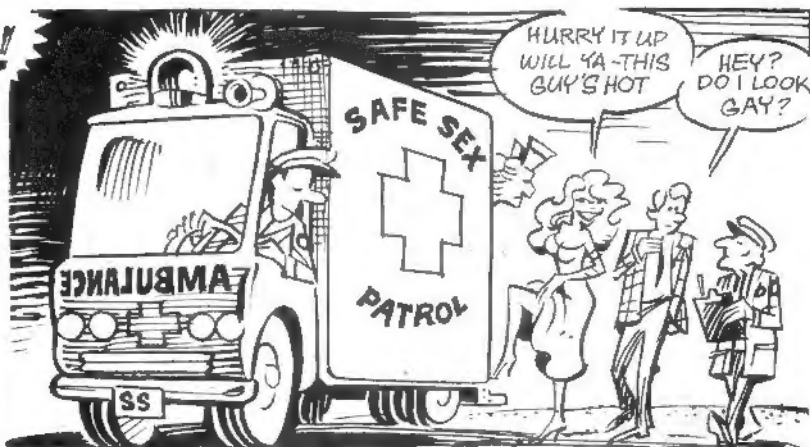
21. A million dollars in campaign contributions is a small investment for insurance companies when legislators' decisions can make billions for the companies.

22. One insurance company gave \$34,000 to one powerful legislator.

23. Legislation to increase competition—and therefore lower rates—in the insurance industry failed to clear the legislature.

24-27. No significant reform of the insurance industry has passed the state legislature.

28. Despite a 1986 surplus of \$3.2 billion and profits of \$6.9 billion, insurance companies paid no federal taxes in 1986.



# DON'T MISS...

## SAVE THE HUMANS

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COMIX  
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THE FOOL.







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